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1918TSINGTAU
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Commencing

MAY 15th.

T. NAGAO, General Manager.

SPORT

CRICKET

HONGKONG CLUB v. R.G.A.

The match between the Hongkong Club and the R.G.A. played on the Club ground on Saturday, ended, as anticipated, in a decisive victory for the Club by six wickets and 87 runs. The gunners compiled 127 runs, the top scorers being "Mr. Extras" (21) and Br. Athorne (21). The Club responded with 214 for the loss of only four wickets, all the players making good individual scores. M. M. Maas (not out, 47) played a vigorous innings, hitting out and five fours. He looked like continuing in this strain when the innings was closed. Scores:—

R.G.A.			
Br. Athorne, c de Rome, b Maas	20		
Br. Dix, b Morgan	14		
Gnr. Perkins, b Gray	9		
Gnr. Cooper, c Murray, b Maas	15		
Br. Mann, b Donnelly	17		
Gnr. Smith, b Maas	0		
Gnr. Baines, b Donnelly	7		
C.Q.M.S. Roes, c Evans, b Donnelly	5		
Capt. Cooney, not out	11		
Br. Glad, b Donnelly	0		
Br. Jones, b Maas	2		
Extras	21		
Total	127		

Bowling Analysis.			
	O.	M.	R.
D. E. Donnelly	10	3	32
Br. Morgan	9	2	28
Capt. E. H. Gray	5	2	3
M. M. Maas	8.4	1	37
F. J. de Rome	3	1	6

CLUB.			
Capt. E. H. Gray, c Perkins, b Athorne	35		
H. E. Muriel, c Smith, b Athorne	42		
Br. J. de Rome, c Smith, b Dix	39		
M. M. Maas, not out	47		
R. P. Thursfield, not out	34		
Extras	19		
Total (for 4 wickets, declared)	214		

Bowling Analysis.			
	O.	M.	R.
Athorne	11	2	52
Baines	7	0	61
Cooper	4	0	31
Perkins	5	1	27
Dix	5	0	30

CIVIL SERVICE v. NAVY.

The feature of this match at Happy Valley, on Saturday, was the collapse of the Navy for 37 runs. The Navy have been playing very well of late, and it was anticipated that they would walk off with the points, but the unexpected happened. The Civil Service lost three wickets for 29 runs, when D. M. Goodall was joined by C. M. W. Reynolds and carried the score to 60. After the dismissal of these two, the score mounted slowly, and ultimately the total of 104 was reached. It was anticipated that the Navy would exceed this, but they were unable to withstand the bowling of E. W. Hamilton (5 wickets for 16) and E. O. Bird (4 for 18), aided by a good field. Scores:—

C.S.O.			
D. M. Goodall, b Gibson	27		
Hon. C. Severn, b Gibson	3		
B. W. Bradbury, c Haek, b Gibson	4		
C. M. W. Reynolds, b Black	16		
E. W. Hamilton, b Black	9		
B. C. Wittichell, c Robinson, b Gibson	8		
R. E. O. Bird, b Black	0		
T. McCormack, b Henley	13		
W. H. Edmunds, c Henley, b Godfrey	12		
Godfrey	0		
F. C. Fletcher, not out	0		
Extras	12		
Total	104		

Bowling Analysis.			
	O.	M.	R.
Cdr. Gibson	16	3	37
L/S. Godfrey	6	2	21
Black	10	5	30
A. B. Henley	4	0	44

NAVY.			
Br. Wright, b Hamilton	4		
Sig. Haek, b Hamilton	9		
Cdr. Gibson, b Hamilton	7		
Lt. Col. Maybaw, b Hamilton	1		
Mr. Cary, run out	2		
A. P. Robinson, b Bird	0		
A. P. Wild, b Bird	0		
3rd Writer Staley, c Goodall, b Hamilton	1		
Hamilton	1		
Ldg. Sman, Godfrey, c Hamilton	1		
b Bird	1		
Mr. Black, not out	5		
Extras	4		
Total	37		

Bowling Analysis.			
	O.	M.	R.
E. W. Hamilton	8	1	15
R. E. O. Bird	6	3	18

UNIVERSITY v. MIDDLESEX.

In this match on Saturday the University defeated their opponents by more than two to one. Marley made top score with 37 and also took 6 wickets for 39 runs. Scores:—

MIDDLESEX.			
Tabbutt, c Samy, b Brayshaw	12		
Schwartzberg, c Hall, b Marley	0		
Butterworth, c Rumjahn, b Brayshaw	0		
Marley	37		
Brayshaw	10		
Lt. Dickinson, b Marley	1		
Capt. Anderson Smith, b Brayshaw	14		
Cooley, c Hall, b Marley	4		
Relf, b Marley	1		
Smith, not out	10		
Fountain, c Redmond, b Brayshaw	0		
Shay	0		
Thomson, Marley	0		
Extras	4		
Total	71		

Bowling Analysis.			
	O.	M.	R.
E. W. Hamilton	8	1	15
R. E. O. Bird	6	3	18

UNIVERSITY.

R. A. Ponsoby-Fane, c Dickinson.			
A. H. Rumjahn, c Tabbutt, b Parnell	12		
G. Hall, b Parnell	10		
J. D. Wright, b Parnell	7		
P. A. Redmond, c and b Smith	22		
W. Marley, b Parnell	37		
W. Gibbons, c and b Parnell	4		
D. K. Samy, b Parnell	0		
Lim Keng Sim, c Tabbutt, b Parnell	0		
T. L. Cheah, b Butterworth	23		
K. Brayshaw, not out	4		
Extras	3		
Total	149		

Bowling Analysis.			
	O.	M.	R.
Parnell	15	3	45
Tabbutt	7	1	38
Smith	7	1	45
Dickinson	2	1	19
Butterworth	0.3	—	1

CRICKET NOTES.

THE LEAGUE POSITION.

The outstanding event on Saturday was the Navy's failure to make any sort of stand against the Civil Service. The home side, without Dixon and Lambie, were hardly expected to win, and when they were all dismissed for 104 the visitors seemed certain to pass their total without difficulty. They failed, however, and double figures. The wicket was in splendid condition, and seemed to suit Hamilton, whose deliveries kept very low and came off the ground faster than usual. Robinson was unfortunate to play on from Bird's bowling, and the Sailors lost another useful wicket when Cary ran himself out. Commander Gibson was never at home, and before he was "worked" by Hamilton, he was lucky to survive a maiden over from Bird. The fielding on the Club ground was very good. The Club Ground the R.G.A. were badly beaten by the Club, who made runs very quickly. After Saturday's showing they give the impression that they are good enough to win both their remaining matches, in which case they will finish well in front.

The University won comfortably, as anticipated, and have now only the Club to play to complete their programme. There are not many fixtures to be played off, now, and another fortnight should see the end of the competition. The matches still to be played are Hongkong v. Civil Service and University, Civil Service v. Navy, Kowloon v. Craignower, R.E. v. Navy and R.G.A.—six games in all. The only teams which are concerned in the destination of the shield are the Club, the University, Kowloon, and the Civil Service. Assuming that Kowloon win their last match and Civil Service win their return game against the Navy—neither of which, however, may be regarded as certain—the only chance these two sides have is that the Civil Service may defeat the Club and the University draw, in which case all four leaders would finish with 37 points each.

The most likely result is that the Club will beat the University and draw with the Civil Service, in which case the final would be: Club, 40; Kowloon, 37; University, 36; Civil Service, 35. The students only hope lies in beating the Club a fortnight hence. In that event they would finish level with the Club, if the Club should beat the Civil Service, and would win the shield, if the Civil Service should draw with the Club. Hongkong will almost certainly not lose both matches and they are very strong favorites. Next Saturday will help to decide the matter as the result of the match Club versus Civil Service, to be played then has a great bearing on the result.

P. W. L. D. P.			
Hongkong	18	11	2
University	17	11	2
Kowloon	17	11	2
Civil Service	16	5	1
Craignower	17	7	2
Navy	16	7	1
R.E.	16	5	3
C.E.O.	18	5	0
R.G.A.	17	2	1
Middlesex	18	3	15

FRIENDLY GAMES.

CRAIGNOWER v. 82nd CO. R.G.A.

In this friendly match on the Craignower ground the home team defeated their visitors by twelve runs. The scoring was low. The Artillerymen made 58, towards which Attwood (23) and Page (17) contributed more than one half. T. Ford, for Craignower, captured six wickets for 24 runs. Craignower, who were without the assistance of J. S. Graham and A. Grimmett, replied with 70 runs. F. Thompson (23) was the highest scorer for the day. Attwood dismissed five wickets for 29 runs for the gunners. Scores:—

82nd CO. R.G.A.			
Middleton, c Pitt, b Ford	0		
Sharpe, b Ford	8		
Page, b Jex	17		
Gregory, b Jex	6		
Wells, c and b Jex	0		
Attwood, c Pitt, b Jex	22		
Hayley, b Ford	2		
Downes, c Norris, b Ford	1		
Nicholas, not out	0		
Nicholson, b Ford	0		
Extras	2		
Total	58		

Bowling Analysis.

CRAIGNOWER.			
	O.	M.	R.
C. Sara, b Ford	0		
T. Ford, c Gregory, b Middleton	0		
W. Pitt, c Nicholas, b Attwood	11		
F. Thompson, c Downes, b Attwood	22		
Arault, c Clarke, b Middleton	1		
Manley, b Attwood	7		
Jex, c Attwood, b Sharpe	4		
D. Kharas, b W. Middleton	1		
J. H. Mody, b Sharpe	1		
L. D. Norris, not out	10		
D. Rumjahn, c Middleton, b Attwood	10		
Extras	2		
Total	70		

Bowling Analysis.

Middleton			
	O.	M.	R.
Middleton	9	1	27
Attwood	10	1	29
Sharpe	5	0	12

KOWLOON v. ROYAL ENGINEERS.

This match at King's Park, on Saturday, was won by Kowloon by 88 runs. The Engineers scored 83. Sgt. McGregor contributing 19 and Spr. Osborne 17. J. Stalker took 5 wickets for 28 runs. Kowloon replied with 169, J. Stalker (47) and "How Fan" (35) together practically equally the opposing total. Scores:—

ROYAL ENGINEERS.			
Sgt. McGregor, c Cobb, b Un Hew	19		
C.Q.M.S. Reakes, c sub, b Stalker	10		
Lt. Col. Lawrence, c McNicoll, b Stalker	0		
Spr. Waller, c Haynes, b Cobb	14		
Lt. Wahl, c Elson, b Un Hew Fan	1		
Cpl. Adams, c Elson, b Un Hew Fan	4		
Pte. Conner, b Stalker	0		
Spr. Osborne, c McNicoll, b Cobb	17		
S.S. Crippwell, b Stalker	0		
Cpl. Heath, c McNicoll	5		
Pte. Taylor, not out	0		
Extras	8		
Total	83		

Bowling Analysis.

KOWLOON.			
	O.	M.	R.
P. H. Cobb	11	2	25
J. Stalker	14.2	5	28
Un Hew Fan	5	0	22

Bowling Analysis.			
	O.	M.	R.
J. H. Mead, b Reakes	29		
W. T. Elson, b Reakes	10		
J. Wheeler, run out	0		
L. J. Blackburn, run out	0		
J. Stalker, c Wahl, b Reakes	47		
Un Hew Fan, b Crippwell	35		
J. P. Robinson, c Reakes, b Crippwell	0		
W. L. Haynes, b Waller	4		
L. D. McNicoll, not out	1		
R. F. Lindell, c McGregor, b Waller	5		
P. H. Cobb, b Reakes	24		
Extras	14		
Total	169		

Bowling Analysis.

C.Q.M.S. Reakes			
	O.	M.	R.
S.S. Crippwell	5	2	27
Pte. Conner	5	0	30
Taylor	3	0	20
Sgt. McGregor	2	0	21
Spr. Waller	3	0	9

UNIVERSITY 2ND XI v. NAVY 2ND XI.

The match between the University 2nd XI and the Navy 2nd XI was played on Saturday on the Navy ground, and ended in a win for the University by 44 runs:—

NAVY 2ND XI.			
Barelay, b Ismail	6		
Breslin, b Hinton	0		
Ryder, b Hinton	0		
Morgan, c and b Hinton	0		
Hooper, run out	0		
Adhurst, b Rumjahn	0		
Kinchen, c Basto, b Rumjahn	0		
Wann, c and b Ismail	0		
Simpson, c Basto, b Ismail	0		
House, c Charrington, b Ismail	1		
C. Simpson, not out	0		
Extras	4		
Total	40		

Bowling.

Bowling.			
	O.	M.	R.
Hinton	8	0	22
Ismail	6.1	0	12
Rumjahn	2	0	6

UNIVERSITY 2ND XI.

L. S. Ching, c Ryder, b Adhurst	17
Jemall, c Barclay, b Athurst	10
C. L. Kah, c and b Breslin	15
J. M. Jack, not out	14
Charrington, c Barclay, b Breslin	0
L. T. Keng, Barclay	0
C. K. Seng, c and b Breslin	2
Extras	3

CEREBRO-SPINAL MENINGITIS EPIDEMIC. QUESTIONS AT THE SANITARY BOARD.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley has given notice that at the meeting of the Sanitary Board on Tuesday afternoon he will ask the following questions:—

- (i.) Is there a sufficient supply in the Colony of the serum required for treatment of cerebro-spinal meningitis? and is it available to private practitioners?
- (ii.) In view of the prevalence of infectious disease, have any instructions been given to the Police to prevent overcrowding in theatres and other places of public resort?

The agenda also includes a proposed amendment of by-laws relating to carriers of infectious disease, and a statement as to measures adopted in connection with the outbreak of cerebro-spinal fever.

TELEPHONES AND POSSIBLE INFECTION.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Sir, In view of the constant and promiscuous use which is made of both public and private telephones in this Colony, may I be permitted to suggest that it might be advisable, as a matter of precaution, for all telephones to have daily fastened over the mouthpiece, with an india-rubber band, a piece of thin paper, saturated with a solution of camp-benol or lysol?—Yours faithfully,

H. E. POLLOCK.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE "HONGKONG DAILY PRESS."]

Sir, With reference to the Hon. Mr. Pollock's suggestion that a disinfectant paper cover should be fitted over the telephone transmitter mouthpiece, it should be noted that if this is done only thin tissue paper should be used; thick paper would reduce the transmission power of the instrument considerably.

Subscribers using desk telephones may take the precaution of removing the mouthpiece. In the meantime, the hand placed, funnel-shaped, round the transmitter should be used as a substitute for the mouthpiece, but the transmission during this time will not be up to the usual standard. The mouthpiece, if removed, should be attached to some part of the telephone instrument for the present, and restored to its original position as soon as the precaution is considered unnecessary.—Yours faithfully,

H. S. BENNETT.

China and Japan Telephone and Electric Co., Ltd.,
17th March, 1918.

CANTON HARBOUR REGULATIONS.

In view of the prevalent epidemic of cerebro-spinal fever at Hongkong, notice is given that masters of vessels from that port bound for the port of Canton are to pay strict attention to clause 20 of the Harbour Regulations which reads:—

"Vessels arriving having infectious disease on board, or any disease suspected to be infectious, and vessels any of whose crew or passengers have died of an infectious disease, or of a disease suspected to be infectious during the voyage, shall, as provided for in the Quarantine Regulations of the port, anchor in the Canton anchorage (c)."

Such vessels are, on approaching the harbour, to hoist the quarantine flag (letter Q), and keep it flying until pratique has been granted. No person shall be permitted to leave or board such vessel without a permit from the Harbour Master or the Port Health Officer.

In their own interests masters of vessels bound for Canton should endeavour to insure that passengers showing signs of sickness are not allowed to embark at Hongkong.

DEATH OF MRS. MACLEAN GIBSON.

We regret to have to record the death, which occurred early on Saturday morning, of Mrs. Gibson, wife of Dr. MacLean Gibson, Superintendent and Secretary of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals. The late Mrs. Gibson was a victim of the prevailing epidemic of cerebro-spinal meningitis. She was suffering from what was at first thought to be influenza, but the symptoms of meningitis showed themselves on Monday last. Mrs. Gibson, who was about fifty years of age, had resided in the Colony for upwards of twenty years, and had endeared herself to a very wide circle of friends, both European and Chinese. The deepest sympathy is felt with the bereaved husband, who has lost a devoted and loving wife. Her last hours were spent in the self-sacrificing labours at the charitable institutions of which she has charge.

The funeral took place at Happy Valley on Saturday evening and was largely attended.

The Warrant Officers, Staff Sergeants and Sergeants of the Royal Garrison Artillery entertained a large number of guests at a ball held in the R.A. Theatre on Friday evening. There were a large number of officers present, amongst them being, Major W. H. Passby, R.G.A., Major T. A. Robertson, A.O.D., Capt. F. S. Halliday, R.G.A., P. H. Harris, R.G.A., F. Willett, R.G.A., and others of the regiment. The Theatre had been beautifully decorated by Messrs. Tatton, Smith and Youngman, and a very pleasant evening was spent by all. Excellent music was provided by Bandman Crane and the Brothers Mac, of the Middlesex Regiment. Sergeant Major Allison, who undertook the whole of the catering, provided an excellent supper, to which over 200 sat down. The Committee was composed of Master-Gunner May, Master-Gunner Hartree, Master-Gunner Martin, C.S.M. Bruntton, C.S.M. Allison, C.S.M. (I.G.) Youngman, Sergeant Smith, and R.S.M. Tatton. Sergeant Vant, rendered valuable service in the refreshment department. The M.C.s were Master-Gunners Hartree and Martin and Sergeant-Major Youngman.

THE RACECOURSE DISASTER. FURTHER EVIDENCE BY STAND- OWNERS.

The enquiry into the Race Course disaster was resumed at the Magistracy on Saturday morning.

Soo Chi, an office coolie in the P.W.D., said he had a share in the ground floor of No. 10 shed. He superintended the cooking being done there. There were two chaffies burning charcoal which were used for boiling water. He heard a cracking sound and the shed appeared to move. He began to walk out, and just as he reached the door the shed collapsed in the direction of No. 9. His shed did not take fire before the collapse.

By Mr. Bowley—He was just outside the door when the match fell. He tumbled over and could not say whether the shed fell on to the fence. He rolled over the fence and so escaped. About two or three minutes after he had risen to his feet he saw smoke coming from between sheds Nos. 7 and 8. He went away to search for his younger brother and did not attempt to put the fire out. He did not get leave from the P.W.D. to attend the races. He went at 12 noon to the Race Course when he had finished his office duties. Two cooks were employed in his shed.

By the Coroner—It seemed to him that his shed was pushed over. The whole line of sheds appeared to him to be moving.

So Ki Shun, a broker, 62, Des Vaux Road Central, a partner in shed No. 11, said he was present at the time of the collapse. No cooking was done and no water was boiled at the shed. He was stationed on the ground floor, where there were between three and four hundred people. When the shed collapsed he was selling tickets. First of all there was a stampede and someone called out that the shed was moving. Less than two minutes afterwards the shed fell. He was pinned down by the falling bamboos, and it was about five minutes before he could get out. His shed fell in the direction of No. 9.

He escaped on the Race Course side. When he was getting out he saw fire near Nos. 9 and 10 stands. He saw no fire on the other side in the direction of sheds 12, 13 and 14. When the commotion occurred the people shouted "Collapse, collapse," but he heard no cry of fire. He could not say how many of the people who were in his shed lost their lives. He could not say what was the cause of the collapse.

By the Crown Solicitor—He had been a partner in the Colonial Stand for several years previously. This was the first time he had had a share in No. 11. He felt his shed move before he heard the people shouting "Collapse"; the interval, however, was only one of a few seconds.

By Mr. Bowley—Chung Sui Nam, a draughtsman in the employ of Messrs. Leigh and Orange, who was killed in the collapse, was a partner in the shed. There was a separate entrance to the first floor. He and his partners had nothing to do with the top floor; they rented it out for \$250. They had eighteen electric lamps on the first and second floors. There were no chaffies in the basement. They had a bucket of water on the ground floor for washing cups, etc.

By the Coroner—At the time of the collapse the electric light was not on. He thought that his shed was pushed over by No. 12 falling on to it.

Mok Tong Yu said he rented, with others, the first floor of shed No. 11 from the people who owned the ground floor. He was present at the time of the collapse. No cooking was being done nor was the electric light on. He was selling sweep tickets and was standing in the centre of the shed. There were two hundred odd people in the shed, which was not very full. He heard what appeared to be a stampede from the direction of Nos. 9 and 10. He heard no shouting. Soon after the stampede he heard a creaking sound and felt the shed moving. Then the roof came down. The floor upon which he was standing sank and he was pinned down by the roof. He saw some of the people escaping through the roof by pushing away the palm leaves of which it was made. He got out in this way on to the Race Course. He tried to make his way back into the shed to find his friends, but the fire was too close. He did not see any fire before he got out. He first saw the fire between sheds Nos. 9 and 10; he did not see any fire on the other side. He had heard that all the people in his part of the shed escaped.

By Mr. Bowley—Anyone who wished to buy a sweep ticket could go into his shed. By the Coroner—His shed was pushed over by No. 12 pressing on to it.

Lok Cheuk San, a shoof of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, said he had one share in shed No. 12. Altogether there were 38 shares. All the partners were not employees of the Hongkong Bank. The shed comprised two stories. No part was sub-let. He was present at the time of the collapse, but he was not sure whether cooking was done at the shed or not; he did not see any. No tea or refreshments were served. Electric light was installed in the shed, but was not on at the time the collapse occurred. He was on the first floor and heard a stamping of feet on the upper floor as though people were running away. Below him was a six-foot basement. At first he thought it was merely a case of smoking, but almost immediately afterwards the shed fell and he was pinned down. When he got out he saw smoke coming from sheds 8 and 9. He could not say whether his shed was pulled over or pushed over. There were, he would estimate, a hundred odd people in the shed when it fell; it was not very full. This was the first year he had had a share in the shed; last year he was a collector of tickets at the Grand Stand.

By Mr. Bowley—There was an entrance to the first floor from the street and an inside staircase from the first to the second floor. There were two openings on the top floor so that the people could pass down their money to the floor below for the purchase of tickets. When he said there were about 100 people present he meant on his floor only; he could not say how many were present on the top floor. Anyone could go into the shed who wished. There was no light in the basement. The enquiry was then adjourned until to-day.

COMPANY REPORT.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LTD.

The report of the General Agents (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.), for representation to the shareholders at the fortieth annual general meeting, to be held on the 27th inst., states:—

The balance at debit of profit and loss account for the year ending 31st Dec., 1917, amounts to \$483,852.07. As there was a credit of \$53,416.12 brought forward from the previous account, there remains now a balance of \$430,435.95 at the debit of profit and loss account, to be carried forward to the new account.

The following Committee consists of: Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Hon. Mr. E. Shollin, and Messrs. F. Macdonald, A. O. Lang, and H. P. White, who offer themselves for re-election.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.
To loss on working account \$209,032.76
To interest 101,319.31
To remuneration to Consulting Committee 2,500.00
To auditors' fees 1,000.00
\$413,852.07

By balance loss as per balance sheet \$483,852.07

ST. JOHN'S CATHEDRAL ORGAN.

PROGRAMME FOR TONIGHT'S RECITAL.

The following is the programme to be played by Mr. Denman Fuller at the reopening of the organ in St. John's Cathedral this evening at 9.15. It is one well calculated to display the powers of this fine instrument to the best advantage, and from a musical point of view, it contains examples which cannot fail to attract. The Baroque Allegro "Appassionato" is one of the finest pieces of modern writing for the organ extant and will be heard here for the first time:—

"Choral Song and Fugue" Wesley.
"The Cuckoo" E. J. Horsman.
"Allegro Appassionato" Arthur Barlow.
"Andante Grazioso" Smart.
HYMN 103.
"Barcarole" Stenrode Bennett.
"Out of the Past" Denman Fuller.
"Military March" E. J. Horsman.
During the singing of the Hymn a collection will be made in aid of the Organ Fund, for which the sum of \$2,000 is still needed to free the instrument from debt.

CITY HALL WORK PARTY.

During the last three weeks the City Hall Work Party packed the following:—119 shirts, 10 surgical shirts, 18 cotton shirts, 206 pairs of pyjamas, 103 bed-jackets, 100 vests, 35 dressing-gowns, 1 quilt, 15 reversible bed-jackets, 45 dozen handkerchiefs, 189 milk covers, 68 pairs of slippers, 37 shrouds, 7 pairs of bed-boots, 131 theatre squares, 12 face cloths, 4 pairs of socks, 13 small pillows, 25 large mosquito nets, 64 scrubbers, 6 pillow cases, 13 many-tailed bandages, 25 caps, and 80 pairs of operation stockings.

These were packed in boxes and sent to the Red Cross Depot in Bombay for distribution to Hospitals in India and Mesopotamia.

The quilt in the above list is made from small squares of flannelette left in cutting out garments; it is warm and light—the very thing for India—and the maker has the satisfaction of knowing that she has made something out of nothing.

Mention must be made of the Mothers' Union Branch of the City Hall Work Party. With an average of twelve workers, every week they made 1245 articles during 1917 with a specially creditable number of shirts and pyjamas.

For January this year they made 78 garments and in February reached the high total of 108. This all means a very steady attendance at the weekly meetings on Friday afternoons at the Helena May Institute, and the leaders and members may all be congratulated on what they have done towards the comfort of our soldiers.

As we read in our Premier's speech to-day (writes Mrs. Stabb), the heavy burden is carried in the heart not on the shoulders; but women know that the work of the hands can ease the burden of the heart, and happy is she who knows that her time and skill go towards sending ease and comfort to the men, who truly are bearing the burden and heat of the day. We are told not to discourage or depress others—that the dawn is surely coming—so let us keep our eyes and minds on our work, that in the end we may have peace in our hearts, knowing that we have done what we could.

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS IN HONGKONG.

The Hongkong branch of the American Red Cross is completing its organization successfully, and it is understood that active work along some lines similar to those followed in work at the City Hall is being arranged for by the American women concerned.

There are 72 active members of the local branch at the present time, including 45 life members, 8 sustaining members, 12 contributing members, and 7 subscribing members; these various grades of membership being based upon varying membership fees. However, the work to be done is based upon contribution usually arranged for upon a monthly basis, and the organization is arranging for monthly contributions from members and friends.

Membership is not limited to Americans only, but is open to all men and women interested in the work of the American Red Cross. Membership imposes no special obligations, but is usually limited to those who are actually interested in such work.

Members of the Hongkong Chapter are enthusiastic as to the prospects of their organization and expect to do very effective work.

CANTON LOCAL RED CROSS WORKERS.

The Canton local Red Cross Workers on March 14th dispatched to the Matron, 36th Stationary Hospital, E.E.F., one case containing the following hospital supplies:—40 yards butter muslin, 23 pairs pyjamas, 27 flannel shirts, 19 shrouds, 4 surgical suits, 35 pillow-cases, 72 handkerchiefs, 49 ward towels, 110 milk-covers, 28 tray-cloths, 24 table napkins, 7 hot water-bottle covers, 6 surgical caps, 6 surgeons' caps, 4 flannel many-tailed bandages, 71 cotton many-tailed bandages, 54 T. bandages, 64 triangular bandages, 16 eye bandages, 60 roller bandages, 96 swabs, 33 pairs knitted socks, 2 pairs surgical stockings, 6 pairs knitted slippers, 6 floor swabs, 6 floor mops, 5 Singapore coats, 1 coat and waistcoat, 6 pair socks, 1,000 cigarettes and books and magazines.

The following letter of acknowledgment has been received from the Mission of the 36th Stationary Hospital:
Dear Madam.—Have received your kind letter enclosing bill of lading, insurance and list of comforts sent by the Canton Red Cross Workers—needless to say how grateful we shall be for them all.

I think everything is doubly appreciated by the men in hospital in the desert, where it is naturally more difficult to obtain supplies and where everything is of use. We are looking forward very much to the arrival of the case.

The following articles, when you are next sending, we should be glad of:—Shrouds, dysentery pads, socks, handkerchiefs, carpet slippers, butter muslin, old linen, and table napkins and tray cloths for sick officers.

Playing and patience cards we are always very thankful for. Duck and flannel suits are very acceptable for the sick officers—even old ones, as they arrive often without anything but what they stand up in, and so glad of a change. I am so pleased you have sent us some. With many thanks.—Sincerely yours,
D. MILLICENT C. MICHELL.

THE COLONY'S FINANCES.

The financial statement for the month of November, 1917, issued by the Hongkong Treasury, shows the following revenue and expenditure:—
Balance of assets and liabilities on 31st Oct., 1917 \$3,621,330.22
Revenue from 1st to 31st November, 1917 1,449,795.47
Expenditure from 1st to 30th November, 1917 1,530,873.63
Balance \$3,440,652.07

HONGKONG POLICE RESERVE.

ORDERS ISSUED BY MR. F. C. JENKIN, D.S.P. (A.)

SUPERINTENDENTS AND INSPECTORS.
An informal meeting of all Superintendents and Inspectors is called by the D.S.P. for Monday, March 18th, at Headquarters Club at 5.30 p.m.

EQUIPMENT PARADES.
All ranks in the Colony, including Exempts and Medical Exempts, are required to attend with their respective units. The latter may attend in multi. Attention is drawn to Orders of March 12th and 13th. Units will report at Headquarters Club as set out below.

Monday, March 18th.—Staff, Mounted Police and Ambulance Platoon.
Tuesday, March 19th.—Band and Buglers and Drummers.
Wednesday, March 20th.—All ranks who have not previously attended.

EMERGENCY DUTIES.
The attention of all ranks is drawn to Departmental Orders 93 and 94. These orders apply to all Emergency Duties, to whatever station or locality members of the Reserve Force may be called or may act on emergency. The expression "Staff Inspectors" in D.O. 94 shall mean only those who are ex-members of a Regular Police Force.

SENIORITY.
A list of all members above the rank of Constable, showing their seniority in the Police Reserve Force, is exhibited on the Notice Board. Any correction must be submitted in writing on or before Monday, March 18th. A Board will subsequently be appointed to decide any question arising.

RULES.
The Band Practice ordered for Monday, March 18th, is cancelled.

ATTACHED.
From Hongkong Defence Corps:—
P.O. 431 C. E. Thomas (Sergt. H.K.D.C.)
P.O. 433 P. H. Cobb
By Order,
T. T. Housar,
A.S.P. (R.) and Adjutant.

PROPOSED POULTRY MARKET.

At the meeting of the Sanitary Board on Tuesday afternoon a letter will be read from the Government relative to a plan of a depot for the storage and sorting of poultry.

Mr. F. B. L. Bowley, pursuant to notice, will ask:—

- (i.) Has any estimate been received for the construction of a wholesale Poultry Market near the Sailors' Home?
- (ii.) Has the proposed site an area of 2,800 square feet? And is it now let as a timber yard at \$500 per quarter?
- (iii.) Could not the ground surface be concreted and channelled and about half the area roofed with concrete on brick pillars for less than \$2,000?
- (iv.) Are not the poultry dealers willing to pay a rent which would recoup \$2,000 in about 3 years and thereafter produce a substantial net increase to the revenue?
- (v.) If not, what is the reason for further postponing a work which will be beneficial and profitable to the public and will remove the long-standing nuisance from Ko Shing and Li Ning Streets?

INTIMATIONS LANE, CRAWFORD AND COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED 1850. TELEPHONE 1741.

GENTLEMEN'S COMPLETE OUTFITTERS.

I. & R. MORLEY'S WHITE AND NATURAL SUMMER LLAMA UNDERWEAR

THE IDEAL WEAR FOR THE PRESENT SEASON.

ALSO ALL SIZES IN
AERTEX CELLULAR
INDIA GAUZE
SILKETTE
"B.V.D.", ETC.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

A SOAP FOR PARTICULAR—PEOPLE



Andersen, Meyer & Co., Ltd.,
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Hotel Mansions. Telephone 1990.

Wm. Powell Ltd NEW STOCKS! JUST ARRIVED! GRAFTON'S COTTON VOILES.

FOR SUMMER DRESSES, BLOUSES, TEA GOWNS, EVENING WEAR AND CHILDREN'S DRESSES.

THE FINEST AND MOST VARIED ASSORTMENT OF PATTERNS IN THE COLONY.

HONGKONG METEOROLOGICAL REGISTER. Hongkong Observatory, March 17th

FOR SALE		USED POSTAGE STAMPS (all different)	
1000 Stamps \$ 8.00	2000 Stamps \$ 10.00	1000 Stamps \$ 8.00	2000 Stamps \$ 10.00
1500 Stamps \$ 12.00	2500 Stamps \$ 15.00	1500 Stamps \$ 12.00	2500 Stamps \$ 15.00
2000 Stamps \$ 15.00	3000 Stamps \$ 18.00	2000 Stamps \$ 15.00	3000 Stamps \$ 18.00

HONGKONG

Highest open-air Temperature on 16th

Lowest open-air Temperature on 17th

THE WAR

ALLIES AND NEUTRAL SHIPPING.

PEACE TREATY OPPOSED IN RUSSIA. CAUCASUS GOVERNMENT REFUSES TO RECOGNISE IT.

ALLIED AIR RAIDS IN GERMANY.

THE SIBERIAN SITUATION. JAPANESE REPORTED KILLED BY MAXIMALISTS.

General.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

ALLIES TO IMPRESS DUTCH SHIPPING.

NEUTRAL NATIONS WELCOME SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT.

LONDON, March 14th.

It is understood that the Allied Governments intend to avail themselves of the Right of Angaria, as provided for in International Law, and to take over, for the duration of the war, Dutch shipping at present lying in Allied ports.

It is recalled that the Germans exercised this right in 1871, when they destroyed British vessels on the Seine, subsequently paying compensation.

The Allies will secure good freight for the ships taken over, which will be insured, and efforts will be made to replace them at the earliest possible moment after the declaration of peace, if sunk in the danger zone.

A similar arrangement has already been welcomed by other neutral nations. The foregoing decision clearly shows that there is no question of the Allies treating the Dutch unfairly or acting in the inimical fashion which has characterised German methods towards Holland, such as the torpedoing of Dutch shipping without compensation.

The earlier protracted negotiations in order to arrive at a *modus vivendi* whereby the Dutch should receive food in exchange for the use of their ships, had abortive results, owing to the German pressure on Holland.

It is emphasised that the taking over of the ships will still enable Holland to trade with the Dutch East Indies, the maintenance of the Dutch Colonial Empire being equally important to Allied as to Dutch interests.

HOLLAND FINALLY NOTIFIED BY BRITAIN AND AMERICA.

LONDON, March 15th.

According to a New York message, the Associated Press Correspondent at Washington says that the United States and Great Britain have finally notified Holland that unless the pending agreements regarding Allied use of Dutch ships are accepted by March 18th, the ships will be taken over. Ample food will be placed at her disposal if she sends the ships to transport it.

Officials point out that the necessity imposed on the Allies of feeding neutrals demands the use of every available ton of shipping. The United States and Great Britain would go no further than Holland proposed until German threats prevented her carrying out a voluntary agreement.

A MILLION TONS IN ALLIED PORTS.

LONDON, March 16th.

The total Dutch tonnage in Allied ports approximates a million tons, of which seventy per cent. are in the United States and fifteen per cent. each in the British and other Allied ports.

ALLIES' SOLE DESIRE.

LONDON, March 16th.

Lord Robert Cecil, in an interview, laid stress upon the fact that the contemplated taking over of Dutch ships is based upon the Allies' sole desire to obviate the laying up of shipping which may be useful for the world at large. His Lordship points out that these ships are lying indefinitely in our harbours and are receiving various consequent facilities. All nations ought to combine to oppose the German attempt to starve not only Germany's enemies but the world.

AMSTERDAM, March 15th.

The Austro-German Press is most indignant at the Allies taking over the shipping.

The *Neue Presse* characterises it as an unprecedented act of violence against a neutral.

The German Press demands drastic reprisals and threatens to cease the supply to Holland of coal and other necessities.

CLEARANCE OF DUTCH SHIPS REFUSED.

THE HAGUE, March 15th.

The Dutch Consul-General at Singapore reports that clearance has been refused to various ships, including those of the Royal Packet Company.

The Foreign Minister, through the Dutch Minister in London, has asked the British Government for information concerning the matter.

GERMANY'S SEA OFFENSIVE

ALLIED ACTION EXPLAINED.

LONDON, March 15th.

Light is thrown on the Allied action in regard to Dutch shipping by the statement of the United States War Trade Board that cumulative evidence shows that Germany is now using submarines to prevent neighbour neutrals receiving food from the United States or the Allies in order to starve neutrals into political and economic dependence on Germany. There are also indications that submarines are being used to destroy neutral shipping regardless of its employment in order to weaken neutral competitors of Germany after the war. The campaign of intimidation of Holland and Scandinavia which the German Press is carrying on is obviously intended to prevent neutrals from completing agreements which benefit neutrals equally with the United States and the Allies.

The *Daily Telegraph*, in an editorial on the formation of the Allied Maritime Council in conjunction with the announcement regarding Dutch shipping, indicates that the Allies have at length realised that the enemy's sea offensive cannot be treated as less important than his advertised land offensive in the West.

The journal suggests it may be a matter of serious consideration for the United States whether it would not be more helpful by temporarily holding back reinforcements of troops and increasing food supplies, and concluding by urging drastic reorganisation of the British shipbuilding administration and the employment of eighty thousand more men in shipyards.

AMERICAN WOOL SHIPMENTS

ATTEMPTED "CORNER" OF SUPPLIES.

NEW YORK, March 15th.

The State authorities have begun an investigation to determine whether or not certain woolen merchants here have been trying to corner the wool and cotton supplies of the world for the benefit of a German textile alliance.

A semi-official Anglo-American agency is understood to be interested in the enquiry.

Mr. Julius Forstmann, a woolen manufacturer, testified that while the United States was still neutral he received instructions from Count Bernstorff to take orders from Herr Albert, a German financial agent, in all matters relating to wool shipments. Witness at that time believed that he was also acting in the interest of the United States. He said he had seen a letter from Mr. Bryan, who was then Secretary of State, declaring that he would be glad if he could accommodate the Germans with textiles, as America could thereby get German dyes in return.

The Prosecutor at this point remarked that he did not doubt that witness understood to ship wool to Germany on the authority of the State Department, but he would show that this authority had been obtained by false pretences.

THE WORKERS OF AMERICA AND ALLIED COUNTRIES.

DELEGATION FROM AMERICA.

WASHINGTON, March 15th.

Mr. Gompers sent a message to Mr. Arthur Henderson and M. Robert Thomas declaring that in the gigantic task of preserving democracy from German aggression there must be hearty co-operation among the workers, and he hopes that nothing will interfere with the complete understanding and goodwill between the workers of America and Allied countries.

Mr. Gompers promises that a delegation of American labour will shortly visit Great Britain and France in furtherance of the cause of world democracy.

GERMANY'S STRANGLING CLAIM.

FREE TO CONCENTRATE ON WEST.

AMSTERDAM, March 16th.

General Hindenburg and General Ludendorff, interviewed regarding the military situation, said that, having burst the strangling chain, they could now concentrate towards the West. "We can now think of attacking, and if it comes it will be a hard task. Possibly the enemy on the Franco-British front alone has an abundance of reserve divisions and possesses a well consolidated network of railways, but it is the moral strength that matters. We are entirely confident that the battle which is about to burst will be successful for us. Its centre-point is the good spirit of the German soldiers, and we are convinced that this spirit is flourishing everywhere in the homeland."

THE BRITISH EMPIRE'S FOUNDATIONS.

A CLOSER UNION AFTER THE WAR.

LONDON, March 16th.

Mr. Walter Long, speaking at an entertainment to Overseas officers in London, paid a very handsome tribute to the officers from the Dominions who had come thousands of miles to defend the Empire which they and their fathers had helped to build up. Apart from destroying the power of our enemies, another task was the construction of the British Empire, which had only awakened to a knowledge of her strength and possibilities. When the war began, the Empire had a tremendous opportunity. We had learned that distances in reality were nothing, and we had resolved for a closer union after the war, on surer foundations and for a far greater Empire in the future than in the past.

EXPLOSIONS IN PARIS.

PARIS, March 15th.

Two big explosions, heard in Paris, occurred in the Courneuve district. Sixteen dead have been counted, and those injured were numerous.

MUNITIONS DEPOT EXPLOSION IN FRANCE.

PARIS, March 16th.

Thirty were killed and many injured in an explosion at a munitions depot at St. Denis which was built to replace the Deux Courtoises depot which was blown up in 1916.

A few persons were working at the time of the explosion, which was very violent and was felt a great distance off. A pall of smoke hung over north Paris.

GERMAN BRUTALITY.

INOCULATING HORSES AND MULES.

LONDON, March 15th.

The British Government has drawn the attention of the Argentine Government to the fact that horses and mules from Argentina, and leading Great Britain and suffering from glanders, which is practically a non-existent disease in Argentina. The outbreak is believed to be due to Germans inoculating the animals with bacilli.

GERMANY'S COLONIAL NECESSITIES.

AMSTERDAM, March 15th.

Dr. Self, speaking at Cologne, emphasised that any peace to be lasting must satisfy Germany's colonial necessities. He favoured a re-distribution of colonial possessions in order to give Germany a far larger share than before the war, "when her colonies were small and scattered."

LADY HAIG GIVES BIRTH TO A SON.

LONDON, March 16th.

Lady Haig has given birth to a son.

THE HALIFAX DISASTER.

CHARGE AGAINST PILOT DISMISSED.

HALIFAX, March 15th.

The charges of manslaughter against Pilot Mackay of the *Albatross* were dismissed. There was insufficient evidence of criminal culpability.

THE AALAND ISLANDS.

SWEDISH DETACHMENT WITH-DRAWS WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

STOCKHOLM, March 15th.

It is officially stated that the Swedish detachment despatched to superintend the Russian evacuation of the Aaland Islands has begun to withdraw, but the withdrawal in no wise prejudices the Swedish position regarding the political questions connected with the Aaland Islands.

BRITISH SHIPBUILDING PROGRAMME.

LONDON, March 16th.

The *Daily News* states that the Cabinet has fixed the programme of shipbuilding for the year.

Sir Eric Geddes is establishing a new department solely concerned with shipbuilding, probably in charge of a Junior Minister.

THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, March 16th.

Messrs. Samuel, Montagu's report states:—The tone of the market is somewhat firmer. Supplies from America are rather less free. The firm tendency in Shanghai exchange was maintained, and the Indian silver holding has decreased.

THE GERMANO-ROUMANIA NEGOTIATIONS.

GENERAL AVERESCU'S RESIGNATION.

LONDON, March 16th.

The *Daily Express* understands that General Averescu's resignation is due to the fact that his Cabinet declined the German peace terms.

ROUMANIAN CABINET RESIGNS.

JOSY, March 15th.

The Roumanian Cabinet has resigned.

MAJOR MORPHILOMAN, A FORMER FINANCE MINISTER IS EXPECTED TO SUCCEED GENERAL AVERESCU.

AFFAIRS IN RUSSIA.

GERMAN SAFEGUARDS.

AMSTERDAM, March 16th.

The Germans announce that after ratification of the Peace Treaty German commissions with a right of veto will be appointed to the Russian ministries to control the fulfilment of the treaty.

THE SOVIETS CONGRESS.

PETROGRAD, March 15th.

The Congress of Soviets at Moscow was opened on March 14th and included 733 Maximalist and 238 Revolutionary Socialist Delegates.

COMMANDANT AT ODESSA.

AMSTERDAM, March 16th.

Admiral Siebert has been appointed Commandant of Odessa.

ANTI-JEWISH RIOTS.

There were anti-Jewish riots at Odessa before the occupation.

PETROGRAD, March 15th.

In order to strengthen her strategic position Germany has demanded the establishment of a new line seven miles east of the present Russian positions on the Pskov front.

Besides demanding the withdrawal of Russians from the Pskov region, the Germans insisted on the Russians helping in the burning and pillaging.

THE CAUCASUS REFUSES TO RECOGNISE TREATY.

The Government of the Caucasus has refused to recognise the Brest-Litovsk treaty providing for the cession to Turkey of the regions of Kars, Baum, and Ardahan.

A Delegation has gone to Trebizond to negotiate peace with Turkey.

RUSSO-UKRAINIAN PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

AMSTERDAM, March 15th.

The Russo-Ukrainian peace negotiations have begun at Kiev.

STRONG OPPOSITION TO THE PEACE TERMS.

LONDON, March 16th.

Messages from Petrograd indicate a strong undercurrent of opposition to the ratification of the peace treaty. The Social Revolutionaries of the Left on the Council of Peoples' Commissioners have resolved to resign if the Moscow Congress ratifies it. The Commissary of Justice publicly counsels the rejection of the treaty, and says the Congress must form the necessary Government of revolutionary defence.

PRINCE IVOFF ARRESTED.

PETROGRAD, March 15th.

The Commander of the Northern Front has arrested Prince Ivoff.

TROTSKY'S NEW POST.

M. Trotsky has been appointed Commissary of Military Affairs. The post of Commander-in-Chief has been abolished.

COMMUNICATION INTERRUPTED.

Telephone communication between Petrograd and Helsinki has been interrupted for two days. The reason is unknown.

GERMANS SEIZE TORPEDO-BOATS.

The Germans occupying Abn numbered three thousand with artillery. They came from the Aaland Islands.

The town was bombarded for half an hour and three Russian torpedo-boats and a number of minesweepers were seized.

OBITUARY.

SIR GEORGE ALEXANDER.

LONDON, March 16th.

The death is announced of Sir George Alexander, the eminent actor.

Russian Front.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

RUSSIAN FRONT.

GERMAN ACTIVITY IN UKRAINE.

LONDON, March 16th.

A wireless German official report states:—We dispersed enemy bands in Ukraine. We are occupying Bachmitch.

The Balkans.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BULGARIANS BOMBARD MONASTIR.

LONDON, March 16th.

The Bulgarians fiercely bombarded Monastir on the 15th inst., using asphyxiating shells and doing considerable damage.

franco-Belgian Front.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

BRITISH FRONT.

SUCCESSFUL RAID.

LONDON, March 16th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—Welsh troops carried out a successful raid in the neighbourhood of Armentieres and captured 15 prisoners and two machine-guns.

There was hostile artillery firing south-eastward of Ypres, in the neighbourhood of the Menin road and southward of Houthulst Forest.

AVIATION REPORT.

LONDON, March 15th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We bombed a railroad near Lille, and aerodromes north-eastward and eastward of St. Quentin. One of the latter's hangars was set on fire and two were badly damaged.

All our machines returned.

GERMAN PARTY SUFFERS HEAVILY.

LONDON, March 15th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The Canadians raided south-eastward of Lens and brought back prisoners.

A large party of the enemy, who undertook last night's raid at Paschendale, suffered heavily from our artillery and machine-gun fire.

We repulsed raids southward of the Menin road.

BELGIAN REPORT.

LONDON, March 15th.

A Belgian communiqué states:—There has been considerable artillery firing during the past two days.

An enemy raid at Mergen was stopped by our batteries, the enemy using quantities of gas-shells.

We replied similarly. Serious bombing encounters occurred in the regions of Neuport and Dixmude.

HOSTILE ARTILLERYING.

LONDON, March 16th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—We made a successful raid north-westward of Laventie. Hostile artillerying is given on south-west of Cambrai, in the neighbourhood of the Scarpe River; on both sides of the Le Bassac Canal, and in the Messines Sector. Our artillery set on fire a large dump eastward of Quare.

AUSTRALIANS AND PORTUGUESE TAKE PRISONERS.

LONDON, March 15th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—The Australians encountered a strong patrol last night in the neighbourhood of the Ypres-Comines canal and captured 27 prisoners. Our casualties were light.

The Australians successfully raided westward of Houtem and in the neighbourhood of Gapaard, securing prisoners and inflicting casualties.

There was great activity of hostile artillery from Vermelles to south of Armentieres.

The Portuguese drove back a strong enemy party in this neighbourhood.

The enemy's artillery firing was above normal eastward of Ypres.

We entered the enemy's lines westward of Villers-Guislain and brought back prisoners.

We repulsed raids in the neighbourhoods of Paschendale and Poelcappelle.

There was reciprocal artillery firing south-westward and westward of Cambrai, south-westward of Armentieres and in the Messines-Menin road sectors.

FRENCH FRONT.

VIOLENT ARTILLERY DUEL.

PARIS, March 16th.

A communiqué states:—There was a fairly violent artillery duel, especially on the right of the hill regions of Bezonvaux and Vacher-Auville.

We dispersed an enemy raid, following a lively bombardment, west of Merville, in Lorraine.

A Paris communiqué states:—There is lively artillerying on the right of the Meuse.

GERMAN REPORT.

LONDON, March 15th.

A wireless German official report states:—A strong French attack on a wide front only obtained a footing in trenches westward of the Thuzynauroy road.

THE GERMAN STRENGTH.

LONDON, March 15th.

Reuter's Correspondent at French Headquarters says:—Although the enemy does not give any sign when the long-promised offensive will break, he is still accumulating men and material on our front with an intention which seemingly admits of only one explanation: He has 180 divisions on the Franco-Belgian fronts, and over one-third of these are in reserve ready to be hurled at any point selected. Why the Germans are allowing week after week of wonderful weather to pass without moving is possibly explained by their anxiety to know exactly how many divisions still in Russia can be counted upon for the West before committing themselves to the most dangerous and most unpromising adventure of the war.

Behind the enemy's front his preparations are evident. New aerodromes, new roads and immense hutments are continually being constructed. His reserves are in entrenchments far from the front, hence it is impossible to know the point where the attack may be expected. If he attacks he will stake all on a chance of victory. Our defence preparations are on a most formidable scale.

ENEMY DRIVEN OUT OF TRENCHES.

PARIS, March 15th.

A communiqué states:—We drove out the enemy from the trenches he occupied west of Mont Cornille in Champagne on the 14th inst. and captured 45 prisoners. A detachment simultaneously penetrated the German lines at Montblond and brought back prisoners.

AMERICANS' FIRST PERMANENT ADVANCE.

LONDON, March 16th.

Reuter's Correspondent with the American Army in France states that the Americans in the Laneville sector have retained and consolidated the enemy's trenches north-east of Badonviller which they captured in a recent raid.

This is the first permanent American advance in France and enables the Americans and French to operate on higher ground.

A feeble German attempt to retake them was repulsed.

Naval Activities.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

DISORDERS IN GERMAN FLEET.

AMSTERDAM, March 16th.

It is reported that fresh disorders have occurred in the German Fleet at the Aaland Islands.

COLLISION IN IRISH CHANNEL.

LONDON, March 16th.

The London and North-Western steamer *Rathmore* collided with a warship in the Irish Channel.</

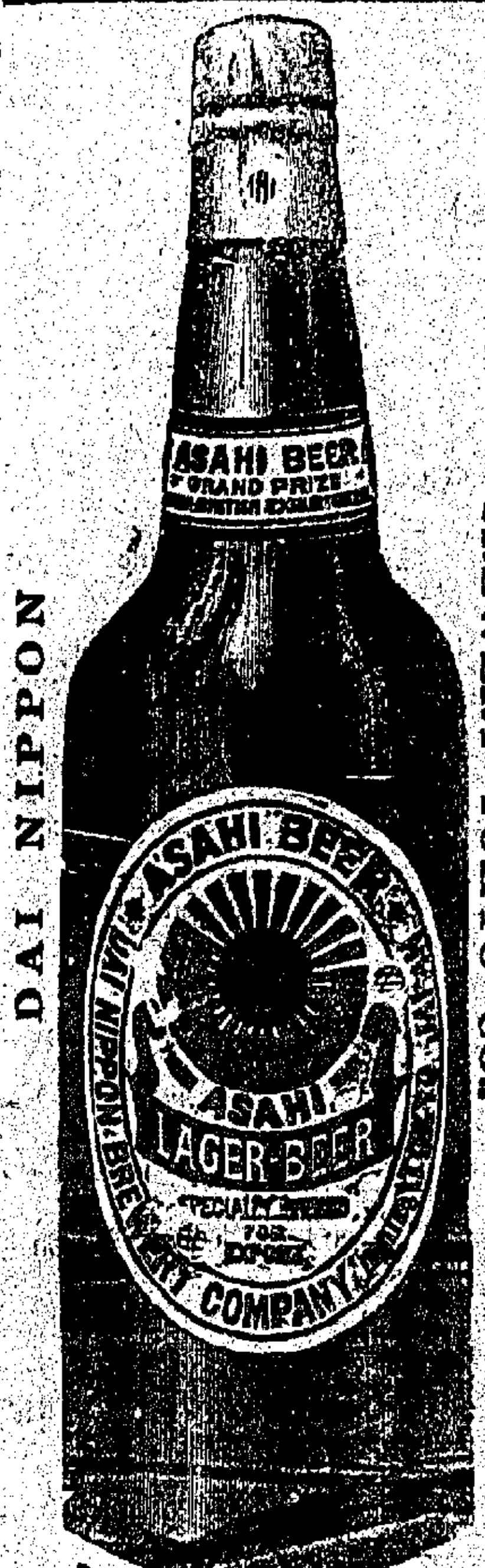
CUTLER PALMER & CO.'S



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LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,
and from ALL WINE MERCHANTS.

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SOLE AGENTS
MITSUBISHI BROS. KAISER,
111, No. 250 of 155These tiny Capsules — superior to Copal, Cubens, and injections — CURE the same diseases as these drugs in FORTY-EIGHT HOURS without inconvenience.
Each Capsule bears the name.
Paris, 8, rue Vivienne.
Sold by all Chemists.THE NEW "THERAPION" No. 1
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THE WAR.

(Continued from Page 5.)

General.

[THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.]

THE SIBERIAN SITUATION.

CHAMPION OF CHINA'S INTERESTS.

LONDON, March 15th.

Under the title of "What China Will Do" the *Pail Mall Gazette* publishes a long article by a Chinese writer, Mr. S. G. Cheng. He says that obviously Japanese troops cannot enter Siberia without the consent of China. China is now at war with Germany, and in the interests of the Allies as well as herself she will probably consent to the passage of Japanese troops through her northern provinces. Moreover, if the German advance to the East, menaces to the Chinese, she will be glad to see the Japanese troops enter Siberia. The hope that as a co-belligerent Power, China will engage herself with Japan in operations against the common foe is confirmed by a report that China proposes to despatch four divisions of her new Army to Siberia as an assistant force to Japan. The next few weeks will probably see the issue of the internal strife in China, but it is hoped that, whatever form it will take, it will not prevent the Chinese Government from fulfilling its international obligations. If the Allies give it moral support. Such fulfilment would not only help the Allies in the sense that it will compel China to send her troops into the field, but it will also be a moral and spiritual gain to Japan. The suspicion has existed hitherto that if Japan once entered Siberia she would probably not evacuate it, and that occupation of Siberia will probably involve China in the loss of a portion of Manchuria and Mongolia. The suspicion is perhaps an insult to the honour and integrity of Japan, but its existence cannot be ignored. The co-operation of China will end such an unfounded belief, as it is only too evident that China, with her vast possessions not yet developed and her traditional fame for equity and justice, will be reluctant to accept any idea of territorial expansion, and that circumstance will not permit that a joint operation by two Powers should result in territorial gain by one.

DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

LONDON, March 14th.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Balfour spoke of the Russo-Japanese situation, in reply to Mr. Lees Smith, who declared that there was no evidence that the large numbers of German prisoners in Siberia were armed or that Germany intended to disperse her forces by a mad expedition to Siberia.

Mr. Lees Smith added that the policy of President Wilson was utterly at variance with the policy of Lord Robert Cecil. If Japan entered Russia, the territory she occupied would not be returned. There was no possible danger of Germany's occupying Siberia. (Laughter.) Japan's intervention would drive Russia into the orbit of the diplomacy of the Central Powers.

Mr. MacCallum Scott affirmed that the real danger was on the North-West frontier of India, Afghanistan and Persia.

Mr. Balfour stated that he thought it impossible in the middle of a European war to have found a remedy for the Russian misfortune. He was an optimist as regards Russia, although not optimistic about her immediate future. The policy of the Bolsheviks rendered the country helpless before German aggression. The Bolsheviks now desired to reconstitute the army and would doubtless welcome British assistance in that connection, but the improvisation of a new instrument could not be achieved in a day. It would have taken years to garner the beneficent fruits of the Revolution in a time of peace. How could the process be carried on in time of war with a remorseless and unscrupulous enemy at the gate handling Russia at her own sweet will? That was the Allied problem.

If the time came for Japanese aid two points must be remembered. The Japanese would be friends and Allies of Russia against Germany, and their object would be the preservation of Russia from Germany.

Mr. Balfour did not suggest that Germany might send a military expedition to Vladivostok, which would be militarily fatal and a waste of time, but Russia to-day lay absolutely derelict upon the waters, disastrously open from end to end for German penetration. Apparently Mr. Lees Smith was ignorant of how far this penetration had already gone. A German officer in Russia would be safer than an Allied officer. Only one bank was allowed in Moscow and it was a German bank. Russia sincerely desired to resist German penetration, but, having destroyed every instrument of resistance, she was helpless. Therefore, why cannot the Allies supply what is lacking?

Mr. Balfour graphically outlined a prophecy of Russia's future with Germany following her time-worn plan of fostering disorder. Germany always wished to encourage disorder in any other country but her own. If a country was republican Germany endeavoured to introduce absolutism; if it was an absolute country she wished to encourage rebellion. Her game was to make other Governments weak by stirring up divisions unchecked. Therefore Germany would strive for perpetual Russian disorders, with the inevitable result—because national unity was at present at a low ebb.

VLADIVOSTOK COMMANDANT COMMITS SUICIDE.

PETERSBURG, March 14th.

The Commandant of Vladivostok has committed suicide.

AMERICA'S MESSAGE TO RUSSIA.

PRESIDENT DEFIES DIPLOMATIC CONVENTIONS.

LONDON, March 14th.

Telegrams from Washington state that President Wilson's message to Russia, which defied diplomatic conventions, has greatly impressed Americans. It is interpreted as demonstrating to Germany that America will not accept a peace which restores France, Italy and Belgium at the sacrifice of the democracies of Eastern Europe. This issue especially appeals to the immense foreign-born population of the United States.

Officials in touch with the President anticipate German peace proposals aiming at a free hand in Russia, and they declare that President Wilson regards this as a sacrifice of principle which he will never accept. There are ample stocks of food awaiting shipment. The only difficult factor at present is transportation, but this will rapidly improve after October, when formerly resources will be available. Great Britain is urging acceptance of privation is completely transforming American sentiment towards Great Britain, and the change is most marked.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

THE MAILED PIST IN AALAND ISLANDS.

STOCKHOLM, March 14th.

The Germans have ordered the people on the Aaland Islands to surrender all weapons and have also abolished the right of meeting.

THE GERMANS IN RUSSIA.

LONDON, March 14th.

A message from Zurich says that the German agrarian newspapers are urging that miles in the occupied Russian territories should be transported to Germany in order to furnish cheap agricultural labour.

RUSSIAN FLEET STILL AT ODESSA.

LONDON, March 14th.

The *Daily Express* learns from Petrograd that most of the Black Sea Fleet is still at Odessa, but all the merchantmen have been transferred to Sevastopol.

DECISION TO RATIFY TREATY.

PETERSBURG, March 14th.

A meeting of the Bolshevik members of the Moscow Conference has decided by a majority of 45 against 30, to ratify the peace treaty. M. Ryazanov, the well-known theorist of Bolshevism, and the representative of all the professional unions, left the party after the decision.

EVACUATION OF CAPITAL CONCLUDED.

PETERSBURG, March 14th.

It is announced that the evacuation of Petrograd has been concluded. Inhabitants are now prohibited from entering or leaving.

All trains have been suspended. The bourgeois newspapers, which had been suspended, are allowed to re-publish.

GENERAL SMUTS' SPECIAL MISSION.

AN UNANSWERABLE QUESTION.

LONDON, March 14th.

Lord Willoughby de Broke drew attention in the House of Lords to statements that General Smuts had met Count Mensdorff (formerly Austrian Ambassador to London).

Lord Curzon said that he unhesitatingly concluded that a question of that kind would lead to highly undesirable discussion, and, if the noble Lord persisted in putting the question, he would decline to answer it.

THE IMPERIAL WIRELESS CHAIN.

PETITION BY THE MARCONI COMPANY.

LONDON, March 14th.

An important case has begun in the High Court, in which the Marconi Company asks for a declaration that the Postmaster-General, as representing the Home, South African and Indian Governments be not permitted to repudiate an agreement, dated July, 1913, relating to the erection of an Imperial wireless chain.

Sir Edward Carson, on behalf of the plaintiffs, said that the agreement provided for the construction of six long-distance stations in England, Egypt, East Africa, South Africa, India and Singapore, with the object of providing inter-empire communication. Except as regards England, Egypt and East Africa, the Postmaster-General had the right at any time prior to completion, to cancel the contract on payment of compensation. The Post Office repudiated the agreement in December, 1914, and stated that the Government had decided not to proceed with the wireless chain. The Postmaster-General paid £20,000.

Sir Edward Carson contended that the Postmaster-General endeavoured to enter into a new agreement with different conditions and read a letter from the Post Office stating that the war had created a new situation in regard to the provision of wireless, which necessitated prior consideration to military needs and the Admiralty. Arrangements with the Marconi Company in that respect might later assist in dealing with the problem of commercial development.

The Attorney-General, on behalf of the Postmaster-General, indicated that the question might arise whether the Marconi Company had not terminated the contract before repudiation occurred. The case was adjourned.

BRITISH TRADE.

LONDON, March 15th.

There were increases in exports of £181,995 and in imports of £28,105,145 for February, compared February last.

BRITISH DETERMINATION TO FIGHT.

LONDON, March 14th.

M. Albert Thomas, writing to the *Daily Chronicle* his impressions of a visit to Great Britain, says he was overjoyed to witness the strength and greatness of industrial Britain. The whole extended activities testified that the British realised that economic means were necessary to secure the triumph of the ideals of freedom so dear to Great Britain and France. The very constitution of the British Empire and the long-established intercourse between Great Britain and her dominions constituted the best foundations for a League of Nations.

M. Thomas says that opinion in Great Britain was better than he had been led to expect. A rumour was spread on the Continent a few weeks ago that Great Britain was seized with a great longing for peace and her Government was searching for a means of ending the war at the speediest. His visit had convinced him that British tenacity and determination to prosecute the war was as strong as during the Napoleonic wars.

THE PEACE OF THE WORLD.

LONDON, March 15th.

Mr. Asquith, in a speech to the Women's Liberal Federation, said that the alleged Russo-German peace was an object-lesson of the kind of peace Germany would seek to impose on the Allies. Victory was the only road whereby the peace of the world would be placed beyond the jeopardy of ambition and the rivalry of selfish mischievous-making interests and forces. (Loud cheers.)

TREATMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR.

GREAT BRITAIN'S RETALIATORY MEASURES.

LONDON, March 15th.

Reuter's Agency is informed that the German Government having intimated that they consider themselves entitled to place British officers in whatever localities may be convenient, whether such localities are specially liable to air raids or not, the British Government has naturally decided to adopt a similar course in the case of German officers.

THE PRE-WAR GERMAN POLICY.

INTERESTING DISCLOSURES.

LONDON, March 15th.

The *Times* says the Stockholm Socialist newspaper, *Politiken*, publishes a Memorandum written by Prince Lichnowsky on German policy when he was Ambassador in London.

The Memorandum was written in August, 1916, for the purpose of expanding and justifying his position to his personal friends. Only half a dozen typewritten copies were made, one of which, through betrayal, reached the Wilhelmstrasse, where it caused a great scandal. Another reached the minority Socialists, who somehow got it across the German frontier. The document, which the *Times* accepts as authentic, is chiefly important as affording additional evidence of the German Government's constant desire for peace. Prince Lichnowsky describes how on arrival in London in 1912 he found Sir Edward Grey refused to give up the idea of an agreement with Germany. The British statesman's aim was "not to isolate Germany, but to get Germany to participate in an already established concert, by removing causes of friction between England and Germany and securing a world peace by a network of agreements." He adds that Sir Edward Grey seemed to find a way out of every apparent dead end.

The *Times* accepts the document as authentic.

GREAT BRITAIN'S MERCANTILE LOSSES.

THE PUBLICATION OF FIGURES.

LONDON, March 15th.

During the discussion of the Appropriation Bill, Mr. Bonar Law said publication of the tonnage losses was being discussed by the Allies. He hoped Sir Eric Geddes would be able to give accurate figures when making his shipbuilding statement on the 20th inst. Nothing but good could result from publication, as the losses were much less than the enemy's estimates. The real reason for publication was to make the men in the shipyards feel that their work was equally as vital to the war as fighting in the trenches. He was certain the results would astonish those who were disappointed now and they would be very much better in future. The Government realised the necessity of securing the hearty co-operation of the shipyard workers. The Premier was continually engaged with the problem. He and Sir Eric Geddes to-day had seen a number of men in the shipyards who were steadily increasing. When results were had in January and February there was no scarcity of steel and the amount of labour was far greater than in the previous three months when the results were good. More men were being brought from the army, but it was not easy to get them owing to the reluctance of commanders to lose good men and the reluctance of the men to leave their comrades in the trenches.

The Appropriation Bill passed its third reading.

THE EDUCATIONAL BILL.

THE HALF-TIME TRADITION.

LONDON, March 14th.

In the House of Commons, on the second reading of the Education Bill, Sir Henry Hibbert contended that the clause compelling the attendance of every boy and girl from 14 to 18 years as a day continuation school for 320 hours a year could not fit the working conditions of the Lancashire cotton industry.

Mr. Fisher replied that the cotton industry unreasonably depended on the cheap labour of children. The half-time tradition of Lancashire and Yorkshire stood in the way of effective organisation for advanced elementary education throughout the country. He believed that the opinion of the districts affected was ripe for the abandonment of half-time.

AMERICAN MEAT EXPORTS TO ALLIES.

WASHINGTON, March 15th.

Meat exports to the Allies will be increased by at least 50 per cent. shortly, for the purpose of building up the Allies' reserves from the great surplus which has accumulated in the United States.

EXPORTATION OF TIN RESTRICTED.

LONDON, March 15th.

Owing to the smallness of stocks, no licences will be issued for the export of tin from the United Kingdom for a period of a month.

THE SILVER MARKET.

LONDON, March 14th.

The silver market is steady.

BRITISH FRONT.

WHY A GERMAN EFFORT FAILED.

LONDON, March 15th.

Reuter's Correspondent writes:—The British Headquarters in the West have been informed that the German non-commissioned officer, taken prisoner in the recent attack north of Passchendaele, says that the failure of it was largely due to the inaccurate artillery support and the erratic firing of the machine-guns. Apparently the attack was designed to be delivered in considerable strength, but owing to the promptitude of our counter-battery fire the German guns were refused to leave the trenches because they were under fire and "thoroughly disgusted."

FIERCE AIR FIGHTING.

LONDON, March 14th.

Field-Marshal Sir Douglas Haig, reporting on aviation, says:—We dropped 700 bombs on billets, farms and railway sidings at Courtrai and Denain and also on an aerodrome used by the enemy's night fliers. There has been very severe fighting between large formations.

We brought down 15 aeroplanes and drove down five. Five of ours are missing.

The Australian and Naval squadrons have been of the greatest value during the recent fine weather.

During Wednesday's Freire raid, bombs burst on the railway station and around the tower station. A large number of hostile machines attacked our air men after all our bombs were released. A severe fight ensued until all the hostile machines were forced to withdraw. Three of our machines have not returned.

FRENCH FRONT.

LIVELY ARTILLERY ACTIVITY.

PARIS, March 14th.

A communique states:—There was a fairly lively artillery struggle on the whole front.

Aerial Activities.

THE AIR SHIP RAID ON ENGLAND.

THE GERMAN VERSION.

LONDON, March 14th.

A Berlin official message states:—On the night of March 11th a Naval airship squadron attacked fortified places and military establishments on the Humber and in Yorkshire, obtaining good results. All our machines returned undamaged, despite severe anti-aircraft firing.

The Near East.

TURKS ENTER ERZERUM.

LONDON, March 14th.

A Turkish wireless message, dated Mar. 12th, states:—We entered Erzerum despite the serious resistance of the Armenians.

THE NEAR EAST.

THE AIR SHIP RAID ON ENGLAND.

THE GERMAN VERSION.

LONDON, March 14th.

A Berlin official message states:—On the night of March 11th a Naval airship squadron attacked fortified places and military establishments on the Humber and in Yorkshire, obtaining good results. All our machines returned undamaged, despite severe anti-aircraft firing.

ALICE MEMORIAL AND AFFILIATED HOSPITALS.

ANNUAL MEETING OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The annual meeting of the Finance Committee of the Alice Memorial and Affiliated Hospitals was held on Friday in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, the Hon. Mr. E. Shallim (chairman) presiding.

The Hon. Treasurer (Mr. A. G. Coppin) reported that the total of donations received was about \$900 more than last year. This was chiefly due to increase in Chinese individual subscriptions; thanks to the excellent offices of the Chinese members of your Finance Sub-Committee. This was the more satisfactory, as it was the first time for many years that Chinese individual and firm subscriptions had been more than those from non-Chinese, whilst the hospitals were chiefly used by Chinese. There was one exception to this, as in 1915 Mr. Shau Shu Ki and his friends made a special effort thereby in one year clearing off the Bank overdraft. Subscriptions from Chinese Guilds were down last year by \$700. Expenditure on medicines was about \$5,000 less than last year, due to Dr. Gibson's foresight in laying down stocks against continually advancing costs.

Ordinary repairs showed a decrease of \$200, whilst special and necessary repairs to the Alice Hospital involved an expenditure of \$1,851. The other hospitals were re-painted, colour-washed and improved at a cost of \$4,141.35. This was necessary work; and whilst in the ordinary way it would have come into the present year's accounts, weather conditions being favourable, costs increasing and having the money to do it, the Sub-Committee decided to put the work in hand last November. But for this the new year would have started with \$1,600 more than last year.

The sum of \$5,000 was taken from Fixed Deposit at 4 per cent. interest and re-invested in Hongkong and South China War Loan Savings at 6 per cent. interest. It would be a matter for consideration of the incoming Sub-Committee to decide whether further amounts on fixed deposit should be similarly re-invested, but investments being equally liquid, but one of them bearing exchange contingency.

The report and accounts were adopted, and the Finance Sub-Committee was re-elected with the following alterations:—Mr. Tong Yat Chun in place of Mr. Au Chak Man, Mr. Fung Tsz Ming in place of Mr. Fung Ping Shan, Mr. Mok Kon Shing in place of Mr. Tan Yau Chi and that the name of Mr. Li Ping be added. The Chairman moved that a vote of thanks to Dr. R. Maclean Gibson, the Superintendent and Secretary, to whom the Finance Committee tendered their deep sympathy in the distressing circumstances that had necessitated his absence from these proceedings, be conveyed with the earnest hope that Mrs. Gibson might be restored speedily to health.

The Rev. T. W. Pearce feelingly associated himself with the vote, saying that Dr. Gibson put his whole heart and soul into the work of the institution, and Dr. Pearce feelingly reminded the meeting of the indefatigable labours of Dr. Gibson for the welfare of the Alice Memorial Hospitals.

The Committee placed on record their sense of the loss which they had experienced in the death of Mr. W. G. Humphreys and Mr. Au Kam Wa, both of whom took a deep interest in the Hospital for many years.

Mr. Shallim continued to continue as Chairman on the understanding that if he left the Colony, or for other reasons, was forced to resign, the Committee would then fill the vacancy.

The report for 1914 stated that in the out-patient departments of the Alice and Netterole Hospitals 14,044 surgical dressings were done, and adding the daily dressings in the wards, a total of 25,000 surgical dressings were performed. A considerable but necessary expenditure was therefore required to provide cotton wool, lint, gauze and bandages. All out-patients are treated free of charge, while in-patients are encouraged, as far as their circumstances permit, to pay for their food. The expenditure for food was \$2,891.80, and refunds amounted to \$2,832.00, thus leaving only a small balance of \$58.80 to be paid for the General funds. In addition to the food refunds, patients who were in a position to do so contributed upwards of \$2,500.

The medical work has presented a considerable variety of cases—Malaria, Beri-Beri, Typhoid Fever, Bronchitis and Phthisis predominating; surgical cases included bullet wounds (cases coming from the disturbed districts round Canton), Vesical Calculi, Dissections of Bone, some being cases of acute necrosis, others of a chronic variety, mostly of Tubercular origin. In the earlier months of the year there was a large demand for vaccination and re-vaccination; cases vaccinated or re-vaccinated numbered 4,356. Encouraging advantage has been taken of the ward in the Maternity Hospital, where a larger number of cases has been treated than in any previous year. There were six cases of Puerperal Prævia, all of whom were successfully treated.

There have been eighteen pupil nurses training in general and maternity nursing during the year, and four who completed their curricula have passed the examination of the Midwives' Board, Hongkong.

The income from donations was \$15,867.24 as compared with \$14,963.70 in the previous year. The Netterole Extension Fund amounts to \$28,993.29.

The following beds are supported:—Morningside Cot by Morningside Cong. Church, S.S. Edinburgh, Hongkong Missionary Children's League Cot, Manchester Royal Infirmary Nurses' Missionary League Bed, Langdon Cot by Mr. Wilson, Melbourne, Bellios Girls' School Cot.

PREMIUM 7. WAR BONDS.

SIR R. KINDERSLEY'S VIEWS.

Writing to the Daily Telegraph, Sir R.

Kindersley says:—

So much has been written in favour of Premium Bonds that I venture to put forward some considerations from another point of view. It is not possible in a short letter to deal with all the arguments. I propose, therefore, to confine myself to the present to what may be broadly called the ethical aspect of the question. Few will deny that the great majority of the people in this country would not tolerate this war with all its miseries and horrors, if they were not convinced that it is a war for those ideals which we, as a nation, have always cherished—the protection of the weak, the upholding of the principles of truth, honour, and justice; and the emancipation of mankind from the thralldom of military despotism. So long, therefore, as our statesmen appeal to the best qualities in human nature, so long shall we maintain the solidarity of the nation, and so long need we have no fears regarding the staying power of our people, whatever sacrifices they may be called upon to make in order to obtain complete victory.

Let us, therefore, examine the real nature of the appeal upon which the advocates of Premium Bonds rely. They argue that to buy a Premium Bond is no gambling, because the purchaser can never lose his capital. This argument is hardly convincing when a certain portion of his yearly interest is to be used for a pure lottery. What they, in fact, say is this—if you will invest your money in a certain Government security, we will give you leave to subscribe a portion of your interest each year to an out-and-out Government lottery. The investor not subject to income-tax can to-day—by investment in National War Bonds—obtain 5 per cent. interest for ten years, and 55 bonus at the end of that time, a total, roughly, of £25 for each £100 invested. An investment of £100 in a ten-year Premium Bond bearing 4½ per cent. only (the rate usually suggested) produces only £25 interest and no premium, so that an investor will be £20 per £100 worse off at the end of ten years compared with the investor in War Bonds. He will, however, have received a licence to spend this £20 in a State lottery. It is immaterial whether you call this sum interest or capital; the fact remains that if he does not win a prize he loses the whole amount. But apart from the specious excuse that no gambler is involved in the issue of Premium Bonds, let us examine the real basis of the appeal. Is it to patriotism? Is it to the wise provision for old age or sickness? Is it to self-denial for the sake of those we have sent to fight for us? Is it to steady continuous effort to help to win the war? Surely it is to none of these. All these appeals have been made continuously since the war began, and with a large measure of success.

The appeal of the Premium Bond is frankly to the baser instinct of capidity—to the desire to "get-rich-quickly-without-effort." It is suggested that the State should deliberately play upon and cultivate what is well known to be a weakness of human nature—a weakness which has probably wrought to mankind more mischief in the economic sphere than almost any other failing. The appeal is the very negation of the spirit of steady and persistent individual effort, and is put forward at a moment when determination and calm persistence on the part of those who stay at home are more vitally necessary than they have been at any other period since the war began. No statesman, I imagine, would embark upon this method of finance unless he saw his way to continue it to the end. Let us examine what is likely to happen in practice. The small investor has during the war invested in State securities a sum of not less than 240 millions sterling, of which 108 millions is payable by the State on demand. There is a further sum of approximately 250 millions of deposits in the Post Office and trustee savings banks. There are some eleven million active accounts in the Post Office Savings Bank alone. If Premium Bonds proved popular, undoubtedly hundreds of thousands of these investors and depositors would transfer some of this money into Premium Bonds, and the State would be no richer, but would be put to immense labour and expense. Having acquired a few bonds, these people, who have learned—many for the first time during the war—the advantage of persistence in saving, would, instead of being encouraged in this habit, relinquish it in the expectation of gaining a prize. The spur to persistent effort as a method of arriving at the desired end would most surely disappear in face of the chance of reaching it by luck. Therefore, if the war is to last another year or more, the Government will lose rather than gain in the amount invested.

There is probably nothing so enticing or at the same time so demoralising to the community as the temptation to try and get rich quickly without effort. It loosens the whole moral fibre of the individual, decreases the inclination to save, increases the tendency to spend, and relaxes instead of intensifying the spirit and action of the people. Many of us have already had a glimpse of such a state of affairs in the South African mining booms of the last century, which thoroughly demoralised society. And what would happen after the war? Even the most ardent supporters of Premium Bonds only look upon them as a war measure; it is reasonable to suppose that having cultivated this gambling spirit the millions of small investors would return to the ordinary solid but unexciting investments. It is much more probable that they would become the prey of any financial shark who might dangle in front of them the possibility of a big increment of capital from some worthless mining or other speculative share, while their betting propensities would be found to have been greatly intensified.

I have purposely refrained so far from reference to the War Savings movement and its vast organisation of 120,000

(Continued at foot of next column.)

PRIME MINISTER TO THE NATION.

A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE.

The Prime Minister's New Year message to the nation took the form of an appeal to every man and woman to spare no effort in the year now opening to further the country's cause. Mr. Lloyd George's letter is as follows:—

"At the beginning of a new year the message I should like to send to all at home is an appeal to do their utmost in these later trying days for the cause for which the democracies of the world are now leagued together. The sacrifices which the men—and the women, also—are making at the front we all know. Despite all that they have gone through, they are still facing frost and mud, privation and suffering, wounds and death, with undaunted courage, that mankind may be freed from the tyranny of militarism, and rejoice in lasting freedom and peace. No sacrifice that we who stay at home are called to make can equal or faintly approach what is so long and hourly demanded of them. So long as they are called upon to endure these things, let us see to it that we do not take our ease at the price of their sacrifice."

"There is nobody too old or too young or too feeble to play a part. If we cannot fight in person, we can fight by the vigour and goodwill by which we do our work, the wisdom of our economy, the generosity with which we meet the nation's financial needs. At the moment, lending and saving are specially important. Money is essential to victory, and economy is the condition of financial power. It is therefore the duty of all to save what they can and to lend what they can to the community at this time. Every man, woman, and child ought to make it a point of honour to increase his holding of National War Bonds as the year goes by, bonds which have behind them the whole strength and credit and resources of Britain itself."

"To every civilian, therefore, I would say: Your fring-line is the works or the office in which you do your bit, the shop or the kitchen in which you spend or save; the bank or the post office in which you buy your bonds. To reach that fring-line and to become an active combatant yourself there are no communication trenches to grope along, no barrage to face, no horrors, no wounds. The road of duty and patriotism lies clear before you; follow it, and it will lead ere long to safety for our people and victory for our cause."

(Signed) D. LLOYD GEORGE.

CAPITAL AND LABOUR

Addressing a public meeting at Hanley, recently, Dr. Addison said an assured peace was essentially a problem of reconstruction, and upon the solution of that problem the successful attackings of many others would depend. We must have a League of Nations resting upon a basis of national liberty. We must enormously increase our production capacity at home, and the aim of the war is a proper understanding between capital and labour. The proposals of the Ministry of Reconstruction would be pretty big ones; whether they would be accepted by the country remained to be seen. They proposed to face the housing scheme on the same scale as they set out to manufacture munitions. (Cheers.)

Mr. G. H. Roberts, who followed, agreed with Dr. Addison that the first business was to win the war. There was not a member of the Government but would end the war immediately, provided we had attained the purposes outlined by the Prime Minister.

voluntary workers throughout the country, but I must say unhesitatingly that the introduction of Premium Bonds would split these workers into two camps, and destroy that unity of purpose which alone can carry a great organisation of this type, for no voluntary organisation can succeed as a house divided against itself. This organisation has, from the first, based its appeal on patriotism and on social incentives as provision for old age for dependants, and for wiser future spending. To-day, through its agency, persistent and steady effort in saving is being made by millions. If this machinery of collection were to collapse, as it certainly would, the majority of the members would cease to save. There are 13,000 War Savings Associations in schools, where the "Association" has proved a wonderful means of instruction to the children of this country in patriotism and the simple economics of the release of goods and services for the war; these, too, would come to an end, for I presume it is not suggested that children should be taught that it is by luck and not by persistent individual effort that achievement is to be attained. The curse of war may be tempered with blessing if it is utilised to promote and sustain the spirit of patriotism which the war has evoked, to strengthen decision of character, and to promote persistent effort; but the appeal must be all the time to everything that is best in the people, and not to their baser side.

If this policy is followed, surely we have every reason for hoping that out of the infinite sorrow which this war has brought about there is going to emerge ultimately a world better, nobler, happier by far in the true sense of happiness, than the world we knew of old. You can almost feel the perspective of men and women changing. You know instinctively that the squalid poverty, the preventable disease of the past will no longer be tolerated; that better education, better housing, are already certain, in a word, that the duty of the individual towards his neighbour is being viewed from a new and higher standpoint. I cannot believe that, because there may be a few hundred thousand people in this country who, though able to do so, are not at present saving money, the nation will decide to adopt a method of finance from which, as a means of obtaining funds for national purposes, every great State has shrunk for the last hundred years.

PRIME MINISTER TO THE NATION.

A NEW YEAR'S MESSAGE.

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"There is nobody too old or too young or too feeble to play a part. If we cannot fight in person, we can fight by the vigour and goodwill by which we do our work, the wisdom of our economy, the generosity with which we meet the nation's financial needs. At the moment, lending and saving are specially important. Money is essential to victory, and economy is the condition of financial power. It is therefore the duty of all to save what they can and to lend what they can to the community at this time. Every man, woman, and child ought to make it a point of honour to increase his holding of National War Bonds as the year goes by, bonds which have behind them the whole strength and credit and resources of Britain itself."

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(Signed) D. LLOYD GEORGE.

CAPITAL AND LABOUR

Addressing a public meeting at Hanley, recently, Dr. Addison said an assured peace was essentially a problem of reconstruction, and upon the solution of that problem the successful attackings of many others would depend. We must have a League of Nations resting upon a basis of national liberty. We must enormously increase our production capacity at home, and the aim of the war is a proper understanding between capital and labour. The proposals of the Ministry of Reconstruction would be pretty big ones; whether they would be accepted by the country remained to be seen. They proposed to face the housing scheme on the same scale as they set out to manufacture munitions. (Cheers.)

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If this policy is followed, surely we have every reason for hoping that out of the infinite sorrow which this war has brought about there is going to emerge ultimately a world better, nobler, happier by far in the true sense of happiness, than the world we knew of old. You can almost feel the perspective of men and women changing. You know instinctively that the squalid poverty, the preventable disease of the past will no longer be tolerated; that better education, better housing, are already certain, in a word, that the duty of the individual towards his neighbour is being viewed from a new and higher standpoint. I cannot believe that, because there may be a few hundred thousand people in this country who, though able to do so, are not at present saving money, the nation will decide to adopt a method of finance from which, as a means of obtaining funds for national purposes, every great State has shrunk for the last hundred years.

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NAGASAKI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA	AKI MARU 12,500 tons. Sat. TANGO MARU 13,600 tons. Sat.	20th April 11 A.M. 18th May 11 A.M.
SHANGHAI, MOJI & KOBE	KIRIN MARU 6,000 tons. Fri. RANGOON MARU 8,000 tons. Mon.	22nd March. 25th March.
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NEW YORK via SHANGHAI, KOBE, YOKOHAMA, SAN FRANCISCO & PANAMA CANAL		
BOMBAY via SINGAPORE, MALACCA & COLOMBO		
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KATORI MARU Sat. 18th April, 11 A.M.
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TENYO MARU	20,000	TUES. 9th Apr.
NIPPON MARU	11,000	TUES. 16th Apr.
SEIYU MARU	20,000	SAT. 27th Apr.
PERIA MARU	8,000	FRI. 10th May

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THENCE BY TRANS-ANDAN ROUTE TO BUENOS AIRES.

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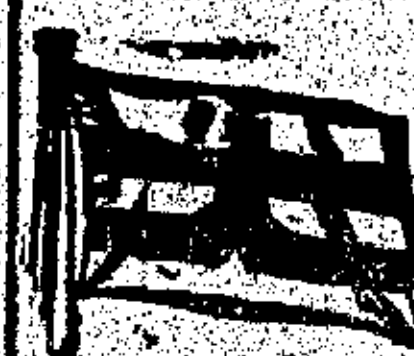
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North American Line. FOR VICTORIA, SEATTLE AND TACOMA via SHANGHAI, MANILA, NAGASAKI, KOBE, KORE AND YOKOHAMA.
"AFRICA MARU" ... WED. 20th Mar., at 3 P.M.
"CANADA MARU" ... TUESDAY, 2nd Apr., at 3 P.M.
"MANILA MARU" ... THURSDAY, 25th Apr., at 3 P.M.

NORTH AMERICAN LINE—This line maintains a regular fortnightly service between Hongkong and Puget Sound ports touching at Intermediate ports in Japan. One boat cargo takes on through Bills of Lading for U.S.A. and connection are made at Puget Sound ports with the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE—Every three months the steamer proceeding to Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Buenos Aires, via Singapore, Mauritius, Durban and Cape Town.

AUSTRALIAN LINE—Monthly service between Japan and Adelaide, calling at Auckland, N. Z., Sydney and Melbourne.

BOMBAY LINE—Fortnightly service for Bombay calling at Singapore, and Colombo. At present this line's steamers maintain cargo only.

JAVA LINE—Monthly service for Java ports calling at Manila, Sandakan and Macassar. Booking for passengers and cargo to the ports.

FOR SAILING DATES AND FURTHER PARTICULARS REGARDING
PASSENGER OR FREIGHT APPLY AT OFFICE.

FORMOSAN LINE—For Tamsui, Keelung and Amping, Takao, via Swatow and Amoy.

"AMAKUSA MARU" ... SUNDAY, 24th Mar., at 10 A.M.
"JOSEPH MARU" ... WED. 27th Mar., at 9 A.M.

These Formosan Lines will arrive at and depart from the SOON YIP WHARF, near the Harbour Office, and while the steamer is alongside the wharf Telephone No. 76 will be used.

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APRIL 10, 1918.

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